FORM. PTO 1390 (REV 5-93)

US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PARTMENT OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. §371

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER 2006-0820A

IAPT Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 JUN 2006

International Application No. PCT/EP2004/013097

International Filing Date June 16, 2005

Priority Date Claimed December 5, 2003

Title of Invention

IMPROVED METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SINTERING OF INORGANIC MATERIALS AS WELL AS RESULTING **OBJECTS**

Applicant(s) For DO/EO/US Paolo MATTEAZZI et al.

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

- 1. [X] This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. §371.
- 2. [] This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. §371.
- 3. [X] This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. §371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. §371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
- 4. [] A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
- 5. [X] A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(2))
 - a. [X] is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). ATTACHMENT A
 - . b. [] has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. [] is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)
- 6. [] A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(2)).
- 7. [] Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(3)).
 - a. [] are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. [] have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. [] have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. [] have not been made and will not be made.
- 8. . [] A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19.
- 9. [X] An (UNEXECUTED) oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(4)). ATTACHMENT B
- 10. [] A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 14. below concern other document(s) or information included:

- 11. [X] An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. ATTACHMENT C
- 12. [] An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
- 13. [X] A FIRST preliminary amendment. ATTACHMENT D
 - [] A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED in the orange and detection in the

14. [X] Other items or information:

Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority - ATTACHMENT E

Notification Concerning Submission or Transmittal of Priority Document - ATTACHMENT F

| U.S. APPLICATION NO. WILLOW SEE 37 CFR 4.57 PCT/EP2004/013 | | | IALAPPLICATION NO. | | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. 2006-0820A | | |
|--|--------------|--------|--------------------|---------------|---|--------------|--|
| 15. [X] The following fees are submitted | | | | | CALCULATIONS | PTO USE ONLY | |
| Basic National Stage Fee | | | | | | | |
| ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = | | | | | \$900.00 | | |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than [] 20 [] 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). | | | | | \$ | | |
| Claims | Number Filed | Number | Extra | Rate | | | |
| Total Claims | 31 - 20 = | 11 | | X \$50.00 | \$550.00 | | |
| Independent Claims | 1 - 3 = | | | X \$200.00 | \$ | | |
| Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable) + \$360.00 | | | | | \$ | | |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = | | | | | \$1,450.00 | | |
| [] Small Entity Status is hereby asserted. Above fees are reduced by 1/2. | | | | | \$ | | |
| SUBTOTAL = | | | | | \$1,450.00 | | |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than [] 20 [] 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). | | | | | \$ | | |
| ' TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = | | | | | \$1,450.00 | | |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40 per property + | | | | | \$ | | |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = | | | | | \$1,450.00 | | |
| | | | | | Amount to be refunded | \$ | |
| | | | | | Amount to be charged | s | |
| a. [X] A check in the amount of \$1,450.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed. b. [] Please charge my Deposit Account No. 23-0975 in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | | | | | | | |
| c. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0975. | | | | | | | |
| NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status. | | | | | | | |
| 19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS | | | | | Mallen | | |
| Bý . | | | | E. Pedersen , | | | |
| | | | | | tration No. 33,145 | | |
| WENDE | | | | · | TH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P. " Street, N.W., Suite 800 | | |
| Washingt Phon | | | | | on, D.C. 20006-1021 e:(202) 721-8200 (202) 721-8250 | | |

[CHECK NO. [2006-0820A]

June 1, 2006